(*b*) what those recommendations are?

MR. C. S. LAKSHMANAN PILLAI: The member is referred to the answer to question No. 232.

Ilmenite Factories at Chavara.

235. * **MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether more than 7,000 daily labourers are out of employment due to the reduction of work in the Ilmenite Factories at Chavara?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: About 4,000 labourers.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN; May I know the number of labourers employed in those factories at present?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: The number now employed is 1,234.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: So far as these 4,000 labourers who are out of employment are concerned, may I know whether Government have taken any action?

PRESIDENT: What action can the Government take? We have got to wait until the United States supply more shipping.

Cultivations in the Tiruvalla Taluk.

236. * **MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the extent of paddy, sugarcane, tapioca and banana cultivations respectively in the Tiruvalla Taluk before 1100; and

(*b*) whether at present that extent has increased or decreased?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (*Director of Agriculture*): (*a*) Statistics of the area under paddy, sugarcane and tapioca during 1099 are available on page 43 of the fifth issue of the "Statistics of Travancore." Separate figures for banana are not available.

(*b*) The extent under the crops during 1114 M. E. (latest available statistics), is appreciably more than that of the years preceding 1100 M. E.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the respective areas under the cultivation of paddy, sugarcane and tapioca in the Thiruvalla taluk in 1114?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: In 1099, the area under paddy cultivation was 31,964 acres, under sugarcane 2,234 acres and under tapioca 22,299 acres; for 1114 M. E. the average increased to 32,200, 6,546 and 38,560 respectively.

Tapioca cultivation.

237. * **MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to start experimental tapioca cultivation on improved lines under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture and to ascertain the profit derivable therefrom; and

(*b*) if so, whether any locality has been selected for the purpose?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (*a*) No.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) this does not arise.

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